

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation**

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Re-route Rhododendron Trail
LOCATION: Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

COUNTY: Humboldt

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Re-route approximately 500 feet of the Rhododendron Trail half way between the junction of Brown Creek Trail and South Fork Trail in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Re-shape existing trail section to original, natural contours, re-vegetate with native plants from the new alignment, and close existing section. Build and outslope new trail section to provide proper drainage using construction crews with hand tools. New section will restore public access lost when several giant redwoods fell across trail, and will reduce erosion caused by unofficial, volunteer trails circumventing the fallen trees.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be in place during all work, to prevent potential erosion, sedimentation, or pollution. Work will be performed outside of the breeding season for the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet. In the event that previously undocumented cultural resources are encountered during project-related activities, all work within 30 feet (i.e., 10 meters) of the find will be temporarily suspended until a DPR-qualified archeologist has evaluated the find.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: North Coast Redwoods District

EXEMPT STATUS: ☒ Categorical Exemption Class: 4 Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of minor alterations in the condition of land and vegetation, which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; included as "trail construction or realignment" in Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

CONTACT: John E. Harris
North Coast Redwoods District

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Steve Horvitz, District Superintendent

1/23/08
DATE